Transfer of Old Nizam's Jewellery

1917. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has approached for transfer of Old Nizam's jewellery purchased by the Union Government for preserving in Hyderabad to enhance tourist potential;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to return the jewellery as demanded to its original place?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The Union Government acquired Nizam's Jewellery by paying an amout of Rs. 218 crores. These jewels are currently in the safe custody of the Reserve Bank of India pending arrangements being made for their display in the National Museum.

The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had recently written to the Prime Minister suggesting that these jewels be kept and displayed in a Museum in Hyderabad as they are linked with the History of the Nizam dynasty and their display in Hyderabad would boost tourist potential.

The request of the State Govt. is under consideration.

मूर्तियों की तस्करी

1918. **श्री जनार्दन यादव:** क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हमारे देश से पुरातात्विक और ऐतिहासिक महत्व की मूर्तियों और कलाकृतियों की तस्करी निरन्तर जारी है;

(ख) क्या इस तस्करी में कतिपय राजनीतिक व्यक्ति भी शामिल हैं; और

(ग) क्या ऐसी तस्करी से विदेशों के संग्रहालय समृद्ध हो रहे हैं?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री (डा॰ मुरली मनोहर जोशी): (क) जी, नहीं, तथापि, इक्का-दुक्का मामलों की सूचना मिली है।

(ख) इस संबंध में सरकार के पास कोई जानकारी नहीं है।

(ग) इस संबंध में सरकार के पास कोई विशेष जानकारी नहीं है।

Mumbai Rail Development Corporation (MRDC)

1919. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to set up Mumbai Rail Development Corporation (MRDC) for executing rail projects in MUTP-II and projects for commercial utilisation of railway land;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal; and

(c) when this Corporation will be set up finally?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The name of the Corporation has been registered as Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation. The process of setting up of the Corporation has been initiated after signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Indian Railways and Government of Maharashtra on 26.5.1998.

(c) After the preliminary work is completed.

Tender for Self Steering Bogie for Broad Gauge

1920. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether global tender was invited by the Railways for supply of self steering bogie for broad gauge in July, 1997;

(b) if so, the approximate value of the tender;